

# Trails & Open Space Committee

March 9, 2022 • Special Meeting Minutes

FINAL REPORT

TOS Committee Members			
Karen Aaron <del>VJ Bonnard</del> Richard Bothwell	Gayle Dana (Vice Chair) <del>Lorna Dobrovolsky</del> John Groom (Staff Lead)	Benjamin Levine (Chair) Livia Quan Ellen Raynor	Graham Reid Peter Sawyer (Vice Chair) Julie Thornton
<i>Affiliated Staff:</i> None			
<i>Subcommittee Members:</i> Nan Meek (EM, EQ), Charlene Simmons (EM)			
<i>Board:</i> Courtney Murrell (BOD)			
<i>Other Staff:</i> None			
<i>Guests:</i> Laura Lindgren (LRPC)			

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1. The meeting of the Trails & Open Space Committee (TOS) was called to order at 3:00 PM with a quorum present.

## 2. Non-Agenda Comments:

- **John Groom** expressed his interest in getting to know individual committee members better, and invited the committee members to schedule one-on-one get-togethers with him in the future.
- **Benjamin Levine** reflected on the previous week's discussion, noting that the professionals appear to be suggesting that wilderness can no longer be the ideal for certain portions of our trail system. In those areas, we will need to move toward a level of infrastructure development that is more consistent with popular regional parks.
- **Peter Sawyer** agreed that our trail system does not provide a wilderness experience. Rather, it provides an outdoor experience and an experience with nature. Hence, as we look at infrastructure and trail development, we should not be measuring our system against a wilderness ideal.
- **Graham Reid** agreed that our infrastructure needs are more park-like in nature, but reminded the committee that it is still important to address the concerns of those members who feel that we are losing something as we move closer to a park-like level of development on our trail system.

3. The TOS unanimously approved the previous meeting minutes as presented.

**4. Discussion With Staff About TMP Topics:** The committee provided feedback to staff on several TMP related topics, including the following:

**Trail Related Street Signage:** Currently, trailhead locations are not included on streetside directional/monument signage. There is also no signage for trail access and trail crossings on Tahoe Donner's main arterial roads. To improve access and the visibility of the trail system, the committee was generally favorable to adding such signage in the future.

**Potential Trout Creek Trailhead to ACAC Class 1 Trail Alignment:** The TOS discussed a conceptual potential Class 1 (paved) trail alignment to provide increased active transportation and recreational opportunities. The committee was highly favorable to this concept, and discussed options for connecting the trail from the Clubhouse to the Trout Creek Trailhead, and from Sierra Glen Way to the ACAC.

**Potential Class 1 or Soft Surface Connector Trails:** The TOS discussed a conceptual trail running from the intersection of Swiss Lane and Cristallina Way to the area between The Lodge and the Trout Creek Recreation Center. The committee expressed interest both in paving this alignment to permit winter use, and in seeing a range of potential alignment options, including options that use the existing golf cart paths. With staff, the committee also discussed the opportunities and challenges associated with using common areas to provide soft and/or hard surface connector trails throughout the neighborhoods. To identify potential areas for common area connector trails, the TOS may assist staff in documenting where such trails already informally exist in the neighborhoods.

**5. Upcoming TOS Meetings:** The committee will continue to meet weekly at least through March to provide staff and Design Workshop with timely TMP feedback. By consensus, the TOS agreed that Benjamin, Livia, and Ellen could meet before the next TOS meeting to discuss potential future agenda items related to dog management, including items that would fall both inside and outside the TMP's scope.

6. The TOS meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM.